

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for infusing a fluid medicament into a patient which comprises the steps of:

engaging a reservoir in fluid communication with a body member, wherein the reservoir is filled with the fluid medicament and the body member is formed with a fluid pathway having a first opening and a second opening, and further wherein the reservoir is engaged with the first opening of the fluid pathway;

establishing fluid communication between an impulse chamber having a nozzle and the second opening of the pathway;

transferring a partial dose of the fluid medicament from the reservoir, through the pathway and into the impulse chamber to leave a remainder dose in the reservoir;

injecting using a first plunger in said impulse chamber to inject the partial dose of fluid medicament from said impulse chamber through ~~[[a]]~~ the nozzle and into the patient at a first fluid pressure; and

~~infusing~~ advancing a second plunger into the reservoir to infuse the remainder dose from the reservoir through the nozzle and into the patient at a second fluid pressure, wherein said first fluid pressure is greater than said second fluid pressure.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the partial dose has a fluid volume in a range between one and twenty microliters (1-20 μ l), and further wherein the remainder dose has a fluid volume at least two times greater than a fluid volume for the partial dose.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the reservoir is made of glass and the reservoir is selected from a group consisting of a vial and a pre-filled cartridge.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the first fluid pressure is at least five times greater than the second fluid pressure.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said ~~injecting~~ using step is accomplished using an impulse generator which comprises[[:]]
~~a plunger slidably positioned for advancement into the impulse chamber;~~
and
a ram for striking said first plunger to generate the first fluid pressure on the partial dose.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said ~~injecting~~ using step and said ~~infusing~~ advancing step are accomplished sequentially to provide for a substantially continuous flow of fluid medicament to the patient.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for infusing a fluid medicament into a patient which comprises the steps of:

~~injecting~~ using a first plunger to inject a partial dose of fluid medicament from an impulse chamber through a nozzle and into the patient at a first fluid pressure; and

~~infusing~~ advancing a second plunger to infuse a remainder dose from a reservoir through the nozzle and into the patient at a second fluid pressure, wherein said first fluid pressure is greater than said second fluid pressure, and wherein said ~~injecting~~ using step and said ~~infusing~~ advancing step are accomplished sequentially to provide for a substantially continuous, uninterrupted flow of fluid medicament to the patient.

8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7 further comprising the steps of:

engaging the reservoir in fluid communication with a body member, wherein the reservoir is filled with the fluid medicament and the body member is formed with a fluid pathway having a first opening and a second opening, and further wherein the reservoir is engaged with the first opening of the fluid pathway;

establishing fluid communication between the impulse chamber and the second opening of the pathway; and

transferring the partial dose of the fluid medicament from the reservoir, through the pathway and into the impulse chamber to leave the remainder dose in the reservoir.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 8 wherein the remainder dose has a fluid volume at least two times greater than a fluid volume for the partial dose, and wherein the first fluid pressure is at least five times greater than the second fluid pressure.

10. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 7 wherein said injecting step is accomplished using an impulse generator which comprises[[:]]

~~a plunger slidably positioned for advancement into the impulse chamber;~~

and

a ram for striking said first plunger to advance said first plunger into the impulse chamber to generate the first fluid pressure on the partial dose.

11. (Currently Amended) A device for infusing a fluid medicament into a patient which comprises:

means for engaging a reservoir in fluid communication with a body member, wherein the reservoir is filled with the fluid medicament and the body member is formed with a fluid pathway having a first opening and a second opening, and further wherein the reservoir is engaged with the first opening of the fluid pathway;

means for establishing fluid communication between an impulse chamber and the second opening of the pathway;

means for drawing a partial dose of the fluid medicament from the reservoir, through the pathway and into the impulse chamber to leave a remainder dose in the reservoir;

means for ~~injecting~~ using a first plunger to inject the partial dose of fluid medicament from said impulse chamber through a nozzle and into the patient at a first fluid pressure; and

means for ~~infusing~~ advancing a second plunger to infuse the remainder dose from the reservoir through the nozzle and into the patient at a second fluid pressure, wherein said first fluid pressure is greater than said second fluid pressure, and wherein said ~~injecting~~ means and said ~~infusing~~ step are sequentially operated to provide for a substantially continuous flow of fluid medicament to the patient.

12. (Original) A device as recited in claim 11 wherein the remainder dose has a fluid volume at least two times greater than a fluid volume for the partial dose, and wherein the first fluid pressure is at least five times greater than the second fluid pressure.

13. (Original) A device as recited in claim 11 wherein the reservoir is made of glass.

14. (Currently Amended) A device as recited in claim 11 wherein said injecting means is an impulse generator which comprises[[:]]

a plunger slidably positioned for advancement into the impulse chamber;

and

a ram for striking said first plunger to advance said first plunger into the impulse chamber to generate the first fluid pressure on the partial dose.

15. (Original) A device as recited in claim 11 wherein the reservoir is formed with a stopper and said engaging means is a spike, and further wherein the spike pierces the stopper to deliver the fluid medicament from the reservoir into the fluid pathway.

16. (Currently Amended) A device as recited in claim ~~[[11]]~~ 14 wherein a pressure wave is created when the ram strikes the first plunger, and wherein the device further comprises a means in the fluid pathway for attenuating the pressure wave within the device to protect the reservoir from the pressure wave.

17. (Original) A device as recited in claim 16 wherein the fluid pathway, in part, is formed with a relatively small diameter and acts as the pressure attenuating means by creating a fluid flow resistance to delivery of the fluid medicament from the reservoir into the fluid pathway.

18. (Original) A device as recited in claim 16 wherein the attenuating means is the fluid pathway formed with a plurality of angles between the reservoir and the impulse chamber for creating a tortuous pathway.

19. (Original) A device as recited in claim 16 wherein the attenuating means is a one-way valve.

20. (Original) A device as recited in claim 11 further comprising a suction means for creating a vacuum between the skin of the patient and the nozzle to stabilize the skin against the nozzle during an injection of the fluid medication into the patient.